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Professor Lloyd in discussion suggested that different parts of the ovule may be able to secrete different kinds of enzymes, ready to attack different kinds of tissue simultaneously; at least three different enzymes have been obtained by mechanical means from the yeast-plant. In certain of the Rubiaceae, the formation of enzymes in the megaspore antedates fertilization; and that the pollen-tube develops an enzyme is well known.

The final contribution of the evening was by Dr. N. L. Britton, on the morphology of the flower of *Dichondra*, a plant commonly assigned to the Convolvulaceae. A specimen is now in full blossom under glass at the Botanical Garden, and its little rotate flowers which resemble those of a saxifrage are highly incongruous with those of the Convolvulaceae.

EDWARD S. BURGESS,
Secretary.

NEWS ITEMS

Professor Charles R. Barnes, of the University of Chicago, sailed from New York for Europe on March 22. He plans to be abroad for about nine months.

Professor F. S. Earle left New York on March 24 to spend two months in the mountains of New Mexico and western Texas, making collections for the New York Botanical Garden.

Mr. R. M. Harper has been appointed temporary aid in the herbarium of the U. S. National Museum. After a month he will proceed to Georgia to continue his field work on the flora of that state.

The moss collections of the late Mr. David A. Burnett, of Bradford, Pa., have been purchased by Mrs. Annie Morrill Smith, and presented to the museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. D. T. MacDougal returned to New York on March 13 from a six weeks' visit to Arizona and the State of Sonora, Mexico, bringing back several large living specimens of *Cereus giganteus* and other living plants peculiar to that region for the conservatories of the New York Botanical Garden.

We learn from the *Stanford Alumnus* that Dr. Edwin Bingham Copeland, recently professor of botany in the West Virginia University, has been appointed instructor in botany in the Leland Stanford Junior University. Dr. Copeland, who is now engaged in research work at the University of Chicago, will begin his new duties in September.

The February number of the *American Naturalist* contains an interesting illustrated article by Mr. Ralph E. Gibbs on "*Phyllospadix* as a Beach-Builder." The fruit of this "eel-grass" of the Pacific coast has a curious device for attachment by means of which it anchors itself firmly to various species of the jointed coralline seaweeds.

A suggestive discussion of the affinities of certain anomalous genera commonly referred to the dicotyledons, begun by H. L. Lyon in a paper on the embryogeny of *Nelumbo*, published in the Minnesota Botanical Studies, has been continued by D. H. Campbell in the *American Naturalist* for January and by H. S. Conard in *Science* of February 21.

Publication 19 of the Botanical Society of America has recently been distributed. It includes a report of the seventh annual meeting held at Denver, August 27 and 28, 1901, and the annual list of officers, members, associates and patrons. The associates who were elected members at the last meeting were Hermann von Schrenk and Albert Fred Woods. The following accepted election as associates: Henry Chandler Cowles, David Griffiths, Duncan Starr Johnson, Thomas Henry Kearney, William Ashbrook Kellerman, George Thomas Moore, Roscoe Pound, Per Axel Rydberg and Jared Gage Smith.

In the announcement for the thirteenth season of the Biological Laboratory of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, located at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, the following items of botanical interest are noted. Professor D. S. Johnson, of Johns Hopkins University, is to be in charge of cryptogamic botany; Nelson F. Davis, Sc. M., of Bucknell University, in charge of bacteriology; S. M. Coulter, of Washington University, in charge of phanerogamic botany; Roy S. Richardson, High School, Brooklyn, in charge of nature study; Louise Brisbin

Dunn, A.M., of Columbia University, assistant in ecology; A. F. Blakeslee, A.M., of Harvard University, assistant in botany. Copies of the announcement may be obtained by addressing Professor Franklin W. Hooper, 502 Fulton St., Brooklyn, or the Director of the Laboratory, Dr. Charles B. Davenport, University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

The program of the spring lectures offered to the public by the New York Botanical Garden on Saturday afternoons is for this year as follows:

April 19th, "The Maples and other early-flowering Trees"; by Cornelius Van Brunt; April 26th, "Plant Life in the Sea," by Dr. Marshall A. Howe; May 3d, "Botanical Features of Porto Rico," by Prof. L. M. Underwood; May 10th, "Some Examples of Botany in its Relation to Geology," by Dr. Arthur Hollick; May 17th, "Wild Flowers, the Necessity for their Preservation," by Mr. Cornelius Van Brunt; May 24th, "The Cottons," by Dr. H. H. Rusby; May 31st, "Cactuses and Cactus-like Plants," by Dr. N. L. Britton; June 7th, "Favorite Flowers of Nations and Poets," by Professor E. S. Burgess; June 14th, "The Vegetation of American Deserts," by Dr. D. T. MacDougal.

The lectures will be illustrated by lantern-slides and otherwise, and will be delivered in the lecture hall of the Museum Building of the Garden, Bronx Park, at 4.30 o'clock. They will close in time for auditors to take the 5.42 train from the Bronx Park railway station, arriving at the Grand Central Station at 6.10.

The prizes from the income of the Olivia and Caroline Phelps Stokes Fund offered last January by the New York Botanical Garden for the best essays on the preservation of native plants have been awarded. The first prize, fifty dollars, was won by Dr. F. H. Knowlton, Washington, D. C.; the second, thirty dollars, by Miss Cora H. Clarke, Boston; the third, twenty dollars, by Dr. A. J. Grout, Brooklyn. The prize essays are being published in the current numbers of the *Journal of the New York Botanical Garden*.